

JAC Meeting – 12/16/13

Convened: Noon in the McGlynn's Restaurant, Dover, DE

Present: P. Ryan (BOA), C. McAllister (DAPE), S. Gharebaghi (DAPE), A. Wright (Sussex County), and P. Abshagen (DAPE)

### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Ryan, seconded by Gharebaghi, the Minutes of the 3/26/13 meeting be approved.  
Approved unanimously.

### **Previous Issues:**

- Sussex County issue
  - Previous week this was on the Council agenda, however, one of the councilmen was in surgery; therefore, the issue was tabled for the next meeting in January.
- Fire Marshal
  - JAC is concerned that the Fire Marshal is not following state law and has not always considered the engineer's perspective.
  - JAC would like to open up the dialogue with the FM again and invite to a future JAC meeting to discuss the BOA and DAPE law, as well as the reason Delaware does not recognize the existing building section of the NFPA Life Safety Code. Clarification is required.
- Building Code Update
  - Sussex County has adopted the 2012 Building Code as of Oct., 2013.
  - C. McAllister shared that as a member of the Delaware Green Council, Delaware has been identified as #17 as not having a unified code. Mechanical, electrical and plumbing codes are unified, but not the building code. P. Ryan shared that some are opposed to the statewide building code, because they want to keep it local.
  - Kent County should be using the 2012 building code by the end of next year.
- Delaware Green Council
  - C. McAllister shared that the committee meets periodically to see what's going on in the State in green building; identifying those conflicts that do not lend itself to conservation; and encouraging green where it can be utilized.
  - A. Wright shared that DNREC/Dept. of Energy has adopted the standards of the 2012 Int'l Energy Conservation Code.
  - It was pointed out that NFPA 45 conflicts with IBC.

- P. Ryan indicated that when NFPA and the Int'l Fire Code conflict, NFPA is typically used.
- Overlapping Practice Areas
  - JAC briefly discussed incidental practice (engineers placing a wall is an example of incidental)
  - JAC would like to revisit overlapping practice (P. Abshagen to provide copies of previous discussions.)
- Legislation
  - BOA has some housekeeping changes regarding continued education which will be handled by rule changes.
  - DAPE now requires CPC in their latest legislative updates.

## **Other Concerns**

- Architectural Accessibility
  - ADA, ANSI, State of Delaware, and Building Code are multi-layers that are applied for handicap access in Delaware.
  - There are conflicts and problems with the multiple layers.
  - Governor has appointed a Board for the State Architectural Accessibility Council to address issues.
- Documents required to be sealed
  - A. Wright asked what documents are required to be sealed – correspondence, etc.
    - Engineering/architectural documents filed for public record are required to be sealed.
  - Architects are working on electronic sealing requirements
  - City of Wilmington requested input from the BOA and DAPE and the BOA responded that documents need to be signed/sealed in compliance with the State law.
- Alternate members of JAC
  - As the JAC meetings seem to be increasingly difficult to schedule, it was suggested an alternate member for both the BOA and DAPE be appointed. C. McAllister is the alternate DAPE member. BOA will need to appoint such.

Next meeting March 17, 2014 at noon in Dover.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.